

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /106 W
-----049652 091203Z /43

R 090927Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5352
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, OAU, SS, MO
SUBJ: GOM COMMENTARY ON OAU SAHARA SUMMIT

1. GOM SPOKESMAN TWICE IN RECENT DAYS HAVE ADDRESSED MOROCCO'S VIEWS ON A SPECIAL OAU SUMMIT ON THE SAHARA. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY MAP ON MAY 3, MININFO KHATTABI TOLD PARIS-BASED AN-NAHAR THAT MOROCCO WOULD ATTEND KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT "EVEN IF SAHARA WERE RAISED." HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE NO CURRENT PLANS FOR A SPECIAL SUMMIT ON THE SAHARA.

2. FONMIN BOUCETTA WENT FURTHER WITH MADRID DAILY EL PAIS (MAP ACCOUNT DATED MAY 6), EXPRESSING MOROCCO'S "HOPE" THAT SPECIAL SUMMIT WOULD BE HELD
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TO PERMIT IT TO EXPRESS ITS POINTS OF VIEW. AS KHATTABI HAD DONE EARLIER, HOWEVER, BOUCETTA WENT ON TO NOTE UNRESOLVED PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS IN SCHEDULING THE SUMMIT. HE CONCLUDED THAT THESE PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS SUGGESTED THAT THE "MAJORITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES JUDGE THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE IS UNNECESSARY."

3. COMMENT. GOM COMMENTARY ON THIS SUBJECT HAS
PROBABLY BEEN PROMPTED BY THE RECENT AFRICAN TRAVELS
OF ALGERIAN FOMMIN BOUTEFLIKA. AS MOROCCAN REMARKS
INDICATE, THE GOM REMAINS LUKEWARM ON HOLDING ANY
SPECIAL SUMMIT, EVEN ON THE RELATIVELY FAVORABLE
TERRAIN OF THE UPCOMING KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT.
ANDERSON

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NNN

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